

permitting the customer to create a copy of any of the preselected digital data content to a removable storage medium; and

transmitting digital data content information from the customer to a remote location to verify that a preselected digital data content has been copied to the removable storage medium and displayed therefrom.

16. The method of claim 15, further comprising:

permitting the customer to preselect desired digital data content from the plurality of digital data content for storage in a storage medium;

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permitting the customer to display any of the preselected digital data content from the storage medium; and

transmitting digital data content displaying information from the customer to a remote location to verify that a preselected digital data content has been displayed.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein the removable storage medium is a CD or DVD.

18. The method of claim 15, wherein the removable storage medium is a CD which is read with a laser having a wavelength shorter than about 530 nM.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the removable storage medium is a CD which is read with a laser having a wavelength about 410 nM.

20. The method of claim 18, wherein the laser is formed using a wide band gap material.

21. The method of claim 15, further comprising billing the customer for only the digital data content that is displayed from the removable storage medium.

22. The method of claim 16, further comprising billing the customer for only the digital data content that is stored on the storage medium and displayed.

23. The method of claim 16, wherein the digital data content is video image data and the displaying of the video image data is by viewing.

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24. The method of claim 16, wherein the digital data content is audio data and the displaying of the audio data is by audio reproduction.

25. The method of claim 15, further comprising:  
compressing the digital data content prior to transmission to the customer; and  
decompressing the digital data content prior to displaying by the customer.

26. The method of claim 15, wherein a larger number of digital data content is transmitted at a predetermined time of the day.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein the digital data content is video image data and the predetermined time of day is a prime viewing period.

28. The method of claim 15, wherein a larger number of digital data content is transmitted at a predetermined time of the day and according to a predetermined criteria.

29. The method of claim 15, wherein the digital data content is video image data, the predetermined time of day is a prime viewing period, and the predetermined criteria is whether the video image data is a new release.

30. The method of claim 15, further comprising transmitting additional information to the customer along with the plurality of the digital data content.

AX 31. The method of claim 30, wherein the additional data is selected from a group consisting of digital data content listing, digital data content transmission schedule, pricing data for displaying each of the plurality of digital data content, digital data content summary, a critical review of the digital data content, a sample of the digital data content.

32. The method of claim 31, further comprising the step of periodically updating the additional data.

33. The method of claim 16, wherein the permitting the customer to preselect desired digital data content from the plurality of digital data content for storage comprises displaying the plurality of digital data content by category.

34. The method of claim 15, further comprising preventing the preselected and stored digital data content on the removable medium from being displayed on unauthorized devices.

35. The method of claim 16, further comprising preventing the preselected and stored digital data content on the storage medium from being displayed on unauthorized devices.

36. The method of claim 35, wherein the preventing comprises inserting coding in the digital data content which prevents display on unauthorized devices.

AA 37. The method of claim 16, further comprising enabling a display device for displaying of the preselected and stored digital data content.

38. The method of claim 37, wherein the enabling comprises transmitting an enabling signal to the display device from the remote location.

39. The method of claim 15, wherein the plurality of digital data content is transmitted to a plurality of customers, the method further comprising altering the preselected and stored digital data content to identify the particular customer from the plurality of customers.

40. The method of claim 39, wherein the altering comprises inserting a digital watermark in the preselected digital data content prior to storage.

41. The method of claim 16, further comprising automatically selecting storage of additional information according to a predetermined criteria.
42. The method of claim 41, wherein the additional information is promotional information on at least one of the plurality of digital data content.
43. The method of claim 41, wherein the digital data content is video image data and the additional information is a soundtrack corresponding to the video image data.
44. The method of claim 41, wherein the predetermined criteria is according to a customer preference.
45. The method of claim 41, wherein the predetermined criteria is according to a customer profile.
46. The method of claim 41, further comprising advising the customer of the storage of the additional information.
47. The method of claim 16, further comprising detecting data errors in the stored digital data content.

48. The method of claim 47, further comprising informing the customer of detected data errors in the stored digital data content and permitting the customer to either display the digital data content with errors or repair the errors in the digital data content.

49. The method of claim 48, wherein the repair of the errors in the digital data content comprises retransmitting the digital data content and storing the retransmitted digital data content.

50. The method of claim 47, further comprising designating a degree of errors in the stored digital data content and informing the customer of the degree of errors.

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51. The method of claim 16, further comprising crediting a provider of the digital data content upon displaying of the digital data content stored on either of the removable storage medium or the storage medium.

52. A method of distributing digital data content to a customer, the method comprising:  
transmitting a plurality of the digital data content to the customer;  
automatically selecting desired digital data content from the plurality of digital data content according to a predetermined criteria for storage on a removable storage medium;  
permitting the customer to create a copy of any of the selected digital data content to a removable storage medium; and

transmitting digital data content information from the customer to a remote location to verify that a selected digital data content has been copied to the removable storage medium and displayed therefrom.

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53. The method of claim 52, wherein the removable storage medium is a CD or DVD.
54. The method of claim 52, wherein the removable storage medium is a CD which is read with a laser having a wavelength shorter than about 530 nm.
55. The method of claim 53, wherein the removable storage medium is a CD which is read with a laser having a wavelength about 410 nm.
56. The method of claim 54, wherein the laser is formed using a wide band gap material.
57. The method of claim 52, further comprising billing the customer for only the digital data content that is displayed from the removable storage medium.
58. The method of claim 52, wherein the digital data content is video image data and the displaying of the video image data is by viewing.
59. The method of claim 52, wherein the digital data content is audio data and the displaying of the audio data is by audio reproduction.

60. The method of claim 52, further comprising:

compressing the digital data content prior to transmission to the customer; and  
decompressing the digital data content prior to displaying by the customer.

61. The method of claim 52, wherein the predetermined criteria is randomly on a periodic basis.

62. The method of claim 52, wherein the predetermined criteria is based on the popularity of the digital data content.

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63. The method of claim 52, wherein the predetermined criteria is based on the preferences of the customer.

64. The method of claim 63, wherein the preferences of the customer are manually entered by the customer.

65. The method of claim 63, further comprising:  
transmitting classification information in a header of at least some of the plurality of digital data content;  
comparing the classification information to preference information of the customer;  
and



automatically selecting digital data content from the plurality of digital data content having a predetermined degree of similarity between the classification information and the preference information.

66. The method of claim 52, further comprising overwriting stored digital data content with the automatically selected digital data content according to a predetermined criteria.

67. The method of claim 66, wherein the predetermined criteria is that the oldest stored digital data content is overwritten with the automatically selected digital data content.

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68. The method of claim 66, wherein the predetermined criteria is that older releases of stored digital data content is overwritten with the automatically selected digital data content.

69. The method of claim 66, wherein the predetermined criteria is that stored digital data content which least fits a preference of the customer is overwritten with the automatically selected digital data content.

70. A system for distributing digital data content to a customer, the system comprising:  
first transmission means for transmitting a plurality of the digital data content to the customer;

receiver means for receiving the plurality of digital data content and permitting the customer to preselect desired digital data content from the plurality of digital data content;  
a removable storage memory for storage of the preselected digital data content;

a playback device for permitting the customer to display any of the preselected digital data content from the removable storage memory; and

second transmission means for transmitting digital data content displaying information from the customer to a remote location to verify that a preselected digital data content has been copied to the removable storage medium and displayed therefrom.

71. The system of claim 70, further comprising:

means for permitting the customer to preselect desired digital data content from the plurality of digital data content for storage in a storage medium;

means for permitting the customer to display any of the preselected digital data content from the storage medium; and

means for transmitting digital data content displaying information from the customer to a remote location to verify that a preselected digital data content has been displayed.

72. The system of claim 70, wherein the removable storage memory is a CD or DVD.

73. The system of claim 70, wherein the removable storage memory is a CD which is read with a laser having a wavelength shorter than about 530 nm.

74. The system of claim 73, wherein the removable storage memory is a CD which is read with a laser having a wavelength about 410 nm.

75. The system of claim 73, wherein the laser is formed using a wide band gap material.

receiver means for receiving the plurality of digital data content and automatically selecting desired digital data content from the plurality of digital data content according to a predetermined criteria;

a removable storage memory for storage of the selected digital data content;

a playback device for permitting the customer to display any of the selected digital data content from the removable storage memory; and

second transmission means for transmitting digital data content displaying information from the customer to a remote location to verify that a selected digital data content has been copied to the removable storage medium and displayed therefrom.

82. The system of claim 81, wherein the removable storage memory is a CD or DVD.

83. The system of claim 81, wherein the removable storage memory is a CD which is read with a laser having a wavelength shorter than about 530 nm.

84. The system of claim 83, wherein the removable storage memory is a CD which is read with a laser having a wavelength about 410 nm.

85. The system of claim 83, wherein the laser is formed using a wide band gap material.

86. The system of claim 81, further comprising means for billing the customer for only the digital data content that is displayed from the removable storage medium.

76. The system of claim 70, further comprising means for billing the customer for only the digital data content that is displayed from the removable storage medium.

77. The system of claim 71, further comprising means for billing the customer for only the digital data content that is stored on the storage medium and displayed.

78. The system of claim 70, wherein the digital data content is video image data and the playback device is a monitor for displaying of the video image data by viewing.

79. The system of claim 70, wherein the digital data content is audio data and the playback device is at least one speaker for displaying of the audio data by audio reproduction.

80. The system of claim 70, further comprising:

an encoder for compressing the digital data content prior to transmission to the customer; and

a decoder for decompressing the digital data content prior to displaying by the customer.

81. A system for distributing digital data content to a customer, the system comprising:

first transmission means for transmitting a plurality of the digital data content to the customer;

87. The system of claim 81, wherein the digital data content is video image data and the playback device is a monitor for displaying of the video image data by viewing.
88. The system of claim 81, wherein the digital data content is audio data and the playback device is at least one speaker for displaying of the audio data by audio reproduction.
89. The system of claim 81, further comprising:  
an encoder for compressing the digital data content prior to transmission to the customer; and  
a decoder for decompressing the digital data content prior to displaying by the customer.
- AA 90. The system of claim 81, wherein the predetermined criteria is randomly on a periodic basis.
91. The system of claim 81, wherein the predetermined criteria is based on the popularity of the digital data content.
92. The system of claim 81, wherein the predetermined criteria is based on the preferences of the customer.
93. The system of claim 92, wherein the preferences of the customer are manually entered by the customer.

94. The system of claim 92, further comprising:

means for inserting classification information in a header of at least some of the plurality of digital data content prior to transmission; and

a processor for comparing the classification information to preference information of the customer and automatically selecting digital data content from the plurality of digital data content having a predetermined degree of similarity between the classification information and the preference information.

95. A user station for displaying digital data content, the user station comprising:

a receiver for receiving a transmission of a plurality of digital data content;

a removable storage memory; and

selection means for informing the user of the plurality of digital data content received, for selecting from the plurality of digital data content for storage in the removable storage memory, and for selecting from the digital data content stored in the removable storage memory for display.

96. The user station of claim 95, further comprising a storage memory, wherein the selection means further comprises means for permitting the customer to preselect desired digital data content from the plurality of digital data content for storage in the storage memory and means for permitting the customer to display any of the preselected digital data content from the storage medium.

97. The user station of claim 95, further comprising a transmission means for transmitting billing information to a remote location for billing the customer for only the digital data content that is stored on the removable storage memory and displayed.

98. The user station of claim 96, further comprising a transmission means for transmitting billing information to a remote location for billing the customer for only the digital data content that is stored on the storage memory and displayed.

99. The user station of claim 95, wherein the removable storage memory is a CD or DVD.

100. The user station of claim 95, wherein the removable storage memory is a CD which is read with a laser having a wavelength shorter than about 530 nm.

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101. The user station of claim 100, wherein the removable storage memory is a CD which is read with a laser having a wavelength about 410 nm.

102. The user station of claim 100, wherein the laser is formed using a wide band gap material.

103. The user station of claim 95, further comprising a display for displaying the digital data content stored in the removable storage memory.

104. The user station of claim 96, further comprising a display for displaying the digital data content stored in the storage memory.
105. The user station of claim 95, wherein the digital data content is video image data and the display is a monitor.
106. The user station of claim 95, wherein the digital data content is audio data and the display is at least one speaker.
107. The user station of claim 95, wherein the receiver is selected from a group consisting of a satellite receiver, cable receiver, internet receiver, and telephone receiver.
- AX 108. The user station of claim 95, wherein the plurality of digital data content is compressed, the user station further comprising a decoder for decompressing the digital data content prior to displaying by the customer.
109. The user station of claim 95, further comprising means for detecting data errors in the stored digital data content.
110. The user station of claim 95, wherein the selection means comprises a monitor for displaying a listing of the plurality of digital data content received and means for traversing the listing and selecting a desired one from the listing for storage and for display.



111. The user station of claim 110, wherein the means for traversing comprises a plurality of buttons, some of the plurality of buttons having a function of traversing the listing and at least one of the buttons having a function of selecting a desired one from the listing.

112. A user station for displaying digital data content, the user station comprising:

a receiver for receiving a transmission of a plurality of digital data content;

a removable storage memory;

a means for automatically selecting from the plurality of digital data content for storage in the removable storage memory; and

selection means for informing the user of the digital data content automatically selected and for selecting from the digital data content stored in the removable storage memory for display.

113. The user station of claim 112, wherein the removable storage memory is a CD or DVD.

114. The user station of claim 112, wherein the removable storage memory is a CD which is read with a laser having a wavelength shorter than about 530 nM.

115. The user station of claim 114, wherein the removable storage memory is a CD which is read with a laser having a wavelength about 410 nM.

116. The user station of claim 114, wherein the laser is formed using a wide band gap material.

117. The user station of claim 112, further comprising a display for displaying the digital data content stored in the removable storage memory.

118. The user station of claim 117, wherein the digital data content is video image data and the display is a monitor.

119. The user station of claim 117, wherein the digital data content is audio data and the display is at least one speaker.

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120. The user station of claim 112, further comprising a transmission means for transmitting billing information to a remote location for billing the customer for only the digital data content that is stored on the removable storage memory and displayed.

121. The user station of claim 112, wherein the receiver is selected from a group consisting of a satellite receiver, cable receiver, internet receiver, and telephone receiver.

122. The user station of claim 112, wherein the memory is a peripheral device selected from a group consisting of a hard drive, a compact disc, an optical drive, a magnetic drive, a magneto-optical drive, and a DVD Ram.

123. The user station of claim 112, wherein the plurality of digital data content is compressed, the user station further comprising a decoder for decompressing the digital data content prior to displaying by the customer.

124. The user station of claim 112, further comprising means for detecting data errors in the stored digital data content.

125. The user station of claim 112, wherein the predetermined criteria is randomly on a periodic basis.

126. The user station of claim 112, wherein the predetermined criteria is based on the popularity of the digital data content.

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127. The user station of claim 112, wherein the predetermined criteria is based on the preferences of the customer.

128. The user station of claim 127, wherein the preferences of the customer are manually entered by the customer.

129. A storage medium having at least one track having data stored thereon in the form of pit and land lengths and a track pitch, the data being stored by a process comprising writing the pits and land lengths with a laser having a wavelength shorter than about 530 nm.